

***What Is Claimed Is:***

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1. A system for linking notes to Web pages, comprising:  
means for enabling a user to select a portion of a Web page;  
means for creating an annotation;  
means for linking said annotation to said selected portion;  
means for receiving a request from a user viewing said annotation  
to display said selected portion linked to said annotation; and  
means for invoking an application to view said selected portion, if  
said application is not already invoked, and for causing said application to load  
said Web page and present said selected portion.
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2. The system of claim 1, further comprising:  
means for receiving a request from a user viewing said selected  
portion to display said annotation linked to said selected portion; and  
means for loading said annotation, if said annotation is not already  
loaded, and for displaying said annotation.
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3. The system of claim 1, further comprising:  
means for enabling a user to enter into said annotation a  
description of the rationale for linking said annotation to said selected portion.
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4. The system of claim 1, further comprising:  
means for enabling a user to e-mail another user a copy of said  
annotation and a copy of said selected portion.
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5. The system of claim 1, wherein said annotation is a first sub-notes  
in a note, further comprising:  
means for enabling a user to select a second portion of said Web  
page;

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means for creating a second sub-note in said note; and  
means for linking said second sub-note to said selected second  
portion.

5           6.       The system of claim 5, wherein said first portion and said second  
portion partially overlap in said Web page.

7.       The system of claim 1, wherein said annotation is a first sub-note  
in a note, further comprising:

10               means for enabling a user to select a second portion of a second  
Web page associated with a second application;

              means for creating a second sub-note in said note; and  
              means for linking said second sub-note to said selected second  
portion.

15           8.       The system of claim 7, further comprising:

              means for receiving a request from a user viewing said note to  
display said selected second portion linked to said second sub-note; and

              means for invoking said second application, if said second  
application is not already invoked, and for causing said second application to load  
said second Web page and present said selected second portion.

20           9.       A method of linking notes to Web pages, comprising the steps of:

              (1)     enabling a user to select a portion of a Web page;  
              (2)     creating a annotation;  
              (3)     linking said annotation to said selected portion;  
              (4)     receiving a request from a user viewing said annotation to  
display said selected portion linked to said annotation; and

25               (5)     invoking an application, if said application is not already  
invoked, and for causing said application to load said Web page and present said

selected portion.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

(6) receiving a request from a user viewing said selected portion to display said annotation linked to said selected portion; and

(7) loading said note, if said annotation is not already loaded, and for displaying said annotation.

11. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:

(6) enabling a user to enter into said annotation a description of the rationale for linking said annotation to said selected portion.

12. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of:

(6) enabling a user to e-mail another user a copy of said annotation and a copy of said selected portion.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein said annotation is a first sub-note in a note, further comprising the steps of:

(6) enabling a user to select a second portion of said Web page;

(7) creating a second sub-note in said note; and

(8) linking said second sub-note to said selected second portion.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said first portion and said second portion partially overlap in said Web page.

15. The method of claim 9, wherein said annotation is a first sub-note in a note, further comprising the steps of:

(6) enabling a user to select a second portion of a second Web page associated with a second application;

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- (7) creating a second sub-note in said note; and
- (8) linking said second sub-note to said selected second portion.

16. The method of claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

- (9) receiving a request from a user viewing said note to display said selected second portion linked to said second sub-note; and
- (10) invoking said second application, if said second application is not already invoked, and for causing said second application to load said second Web page and present said selected second portion.

17. A computer system, comprising:

- a processor;
- a display unit; and
- a graphical user interface (GUI) generated by said processor for display on said display unit, said GUI including a window having a note displayed therein, said note including one or more first sub-notes and one or more second sub-notes, said first sub-notes linked to portions of a first Web page associated with a first application, said second sub-notes linked to portions of a second Web page associated with a second application, said second application being different from said first application.

18. The computer system of claim 17, further comprising:

- means for receiving a request from a user viewing said note to display a portion of said first Web page linked to a particular one of said first sub-notes; and
- means for invoking said first application, if said first application is not already invoked, and for causing said first application to load said first Web page and present said portion of said first Web page linked to said particular one of said first sub-notes.

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19. The computer system of claim 18, further comprising:

means for receiving a request from a user viewing said note to display a portion of said second Web page linked to a particular one of said second sub-notes; and

means for invoking said second application, if said second application is not already invoked, and for causing said second application to load said second Web page and present said portion of said second Web page linked to said particular one of said second sub-notes.

20. A method of manipulating notes linked to Web pages, and of manipulating the Web pages, comprising the steps of:

(1) displaying a note including one or more first sub-notes and one or more second sub-notes, said first sub-notes linked to portions of a first Web page associated with a first application, said second sub-notes linked to portions of a second Web page associated with a second application, said second application being different from said first application.

(2) receiving a request from a user viewing said note to display a portion of said first Web page linked to a particular one of said first sub-notes; and

(3) invoking said first application, if said first application is not already invoked; and

(4) causing said first application to load said first Web page and present said portion of said first Web page linked to said particular one of said first sub-notes.

21. The method of claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

(5) receiving a request from a user viewing said note to display a portion of said second Web page linked to a particular one of said second sub-notes;

(6) invoking said second application, if said second application

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is not already invoked; and

(7) causing said second application to load said second Web page and present said portion of said second Web page linked to said particular one of said second sub-notes.

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22. The method of claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

(5) receiving a request from a user viewing said portion of said first Web page to display said particular one of said first sub-notes;

(6) means for loading said note, if said note is not already loaded; and

(7) displaying said particular one of said first sub-notes in said note.

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